



MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

November 2014 – Our next regular meeting will be held Thursday, Nov. 20, 7 PM at Mayfair Mall community room, lower level. The program will be our semi-annual auction, organized by Dave Hunsicker. Please bring cash to pay for your auction purchases.

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month in the Community Room on the lower level of Mayfair Mall (W. North Avenue at N. Mayfair Road).

President: Justin Perrault
Secretary: Joe Paonessa
Sgt. at Arms: Stu Caddell
Trustee '14-'16: Leon Saryan
Librarian: Joe Paonessa

Vice President: Jim Heinrich
Treasurer: Lee Hartz
Trustee '12-'14: Tom Dallmann
Trustee '13-'15: Gary Bieringer
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November Coin of the Month: This month we offer a Milwaukee County Park Commission scalloped aluminum 5 cent good-for trade token in Extremely Fine condition. The token catalogs as Johnson M-68. Starting price is \$5 for this highly desirable Milwaukee item.



November 2014 MNS President's Message

The Club's annual one day show at Serb Hall last month was a resounding success. Over 500 members of the public took time out of their day to visit the show, and raffle ticket sales were brisk, selling out at over 740 tickets. The drawing for raffle ticket prizes was successfully accomplished at the October meeting. A big thank you is owed to everyone who purchased and sold tickets, with all proceeds going to the club in support of its educational missions.

The November meeting activity will feature our club's semi-annual auction. Enclosed elsewhere in this newsletter is the list of items that will be available. If you have something to sell and did not get around to contacting Dave H, do not despair. Please just bring the item with you to the meeting and we can still enter it in the auction. I am sure there will be many good surprises, and a little something for everyone's collecting tastes.

According to event organizer Leon S, everything has fallen into place for the CSNS sponsored educational program. This event is to be held on May 23rd at Milwaukee's Clarion Airport Hotel, and the topic of discussion will be paper currency. For a small registration fee, both breakfast and lunch is provided, not to mention all of the educational benefits of hearing from nationally recognized experts on the topic. Please be sure to register with Central States in advance, and I look forward to seeing many of our club members in attendance!

I hope that everyone who attended the annual club banquet at Alioto's enjoyed the camaraderie. Our featured speaker of the evening, Director Dennis Kois of the Milwaukee Public Museum, gave an excellent presentation on the history of museum collections and where they are headed into the future. With the nature of questions asked of him, it seemed like everyone really enjoyed having him as our keynote speaker. Thanks so much again to VP Jim H. and his wife for doing so much behind the scenes to organize the banquet and make it a fun evening for everyone.

MNS continues to add members to its ranks. At the October meeting Floyd Avrill was approved as our newest member. In November we will be voting on the membership application of Peter Jacobsohn. Thanks for making the decision to join the club, and we hope that you get as much out of it as you put in!

Happy Collecting,
Justin J. Perrault
262.785.7663
masters1122@yahoo.com

News Flash: For the second year in a row, veteran MNS member Tom Casper exhibited at the Virginia Numismatic Association annual show in Fredericksburg, VA, where he won best in show! The photo shows VNA Exhibit Chairman Jack Hepler presenting Tom with the Best of Show plaque for his exhibit, "The Rise and Fall of the Swastika."



Editor's Note: In this issue we carry the second and final installment of Bruce Bartelt's study of exotic beasts on Roman coins, published in the *ANA Numismatist*.

MN\$ 2014-15

Schedule

Monthly meetings in 2014-15 are held at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

Monthly meeting programs

Nov 20:	Auction (Dave H)
Dec 18:	Officer Elections; Holiday Party
Jan 15:	Officer Inductions; Photograding Flying Eagle & Indian Cents by Darrell L.
Feb 19:	Open
March 19:	Open
April 16:	Open
May 21:	Spring Auction
June 18:	Open
July 16:	Open
Aug 20:	Open
Sept 17:	Open
Oct 15:	Open
Nov 19:	Autumn Auction
Dec 17:	Holiday Party

Annual Dues

Dues for 2015 are \$10. They may be mailed to MNS, PO Box 241174, Milwaukee, WI 53224. Thanks to those who have paid.

PLEASE NOTE:

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, helpers to work at events, and someone to bring refreshments for the meetings. We are also looking for ideas for club outings. MNS will reimburse refreshment expenses up to \$50. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.785.7663 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make this club a success.

2014-15 Numismatic Events

Nov. 20-23	PCDA Show, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Rosemont, IL
Feb. 15, 2015	Oshkosh Coin Show, Oshkosh Convention Ctr., 2 N. Main St., 9 AM-4 PM
March 8, 2015	Waukesha Coin Club Show, New Berlin Ale House, 16000 W. Cleveland Ave., 9 AM-4 PM
March 19-21	South Shore CC Show, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 6401 S. 13 th St, Milw.
March 21	Boy Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge Clinic, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 7 AM
April 22-25	CSNS Annual Show, Schaumburg, IL
May 15-16	NOW/WI Valley CC Show, Old Car Show Activity Bldg, 700 E. State St. Iola, WI
May 23	CSNS Educational Seminar at Milw. Clarion Airport Hotel
Mar 31- Apr 2, 2016	MNS/SSCC sponsored NOW show

Refreshment Schedule

Oct:	Justin Perrault
Nov:	Leon Adraktas
Dec:	Holiday Pizza Gang
Jan:	Dave Herrewig
Feb:	Open
Mar:	Open
Apr:	Open
May:	Open
Jun:	Open
Jul:	Open
Aug:	Open
Sep:	Open
Oct:	Open
Nov:	Open
Dec:	Holiday Pizza Gang

Milwaukee Numismatic Society
Minutes
October 16, 2014

President Justin Perrault called the 950th meeting of the MNS to order at 7:03 pm on Thursday, October 16, 2014 at Mayfair Mall's lower level community room. There were 33 members and 3 guests in attendance. President Perrault led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Door Prizes were won by Tom Ralston, Tom Dallmann, Floyd Aprill, Josh Whitehall, Lillian Kasun, Betty Petrovick, Jim Heinrich, Stu Caddell, Paul Dohearty, and Peter Caddell

Coin of the Month was a Georgia medal that may have been issued by the Franklin mint. It went to Steve Jacobson for \$6.50.

Minutes: The minutes for September were accepted as printed.

Treasurer's Report: We took in \$530 and spent \$1358.37 for a loss of \$828.37

Correspondence: We received the latest issue of the Numismatist, the newsletter from the Racine Numismatic Society, NOW news and the Centinel, as well as a letter from John and Nancy Wilson.

Newsletter: Copies are available.

Vice President: Programs and refreshments are covered for the rest of the year but next year is open. Darrell Luedtke agreed to give a talk on photo grade Indian Head Cents.

President: MNS and SSCC will together host the NOW show in the spring of 2016.

Membership: Floyd Aprill was approved for membership and Peter Jacobsohn has submitted an application. Peter collects Philippine and civil war era coins.

Librarian: Joe talked about how you can have out of copyright books printed and bound for less than the cost of finding the book at book stores.

Website: The web site has been updated with photos, club exhibit forms, and info on Neil's recent Farran Zerbe award.

Old Business: We had around 500 visitors at our coin show and sold 741 raffle tickets. All questioned dealers were happy with the show. CSNS is sponsoring a day-long seminar on paper currency on May 23, 2015 at the Clarion Airport Hotel.

New Business: The club banquet is set for Saturday, October 25 at Alioto's on Mayfair Rd.

Upcoming shows: Our show on October 5; Elgin, IL on October 26, and Green Bay on November 2.

Exhibits: Howard Thorpe showed a Pope Paul VI coin of 1960, and Jeff Gaffke brought in silver strikes of a Las Vegas casino. Bruce Bartelt shared a couple of early cast Roman bronzes and Leon Saryan showed off some colored modern Armenian coins and a medal he received from the Chicago Coin Club. Joe Paonessa had a set of Queen Elizabeth I coins and Floyd Aprill rounded out the evening with a new die variety of 1944-S Philippine centavo.

Raffle Drawing

The drawing was held and the names of the winners recorded on a document on file. Glenn Fowler won the 1/10 oz. gold piece. Coins will be mailed to winners who are not present.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm

Respectfully submitted, &c, &c, Joe Paonessa

WEST BEND COMMUNITY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

630 POPLAR STREET, WEST BEND, WISCONSIN 53095-3246, PHONE: 262.335.5151



September 16, 2014

Milwaukee Numismatic Society
c/o Leon A. Saryan, Ph.D.
PO Box 210313
Milwaukee, WI 53221-8006

Dear Dr. Saryan,

The West Bend Community Memorial Library would like to thank you so much for the 16 numismatic reference books that were donated to our collection this past month. Our stacks contained several very out-of-date books on the subject. We appreciate your generosity very much and will put them to good use!

Very sincerely,

Susan Robbins
Head of Reference

Numismatic Society makes donation

A donation of numismatic reference books has been accepted by the West Bend Community Memorial Library. Leon Saryan, former Milwaukee Numismatic Society president, made the presentation.

"The 16 books include eight of the Standard Catalogs of World Coins and Paper Money as well as eight smaller specialized books on different topics like paper currency or Civil War Tokens," he said.

The donation is part of a program connected to public libraries in the greater Milwaukee community. The project is underwritten with support from the Central States Numismatic Society.

"This is almost \$800 worth of books," said Dave Hunsicker, president of the West Bend Coin and Stamp Club. "It's a good promotion of numismatics in West Bend and it's going to help our entire club."

The large up-to-date price catalogs provide details on when any given coin was struck anywhere in the world and what it is worth. The catalogs also cover world paper currency.

"The print versions are very helpful for collectors and these are very expensive books," said Amy Becker, library director.

The project is underwritten with support from the Central States Numismatic Society. The 2014 West Bend Library donation was coordinated by MNS club members Dr. Leon Saryan and Dave Hunsicker.

Some Roman die-engravers were less skilled than others, and their efforts sometimes produced somewhat sketchy results.

with Sol, the sun god. On the empress' coins, the bust, rather than being crowned, rests on a crescent, symbolizing the moon goddess Luna. The same six animals also appear on the brass *sestertius* (a quarter of a denarius, equal to 4 *asses*), the brass *dupondius* (2 *asses*) and copper *as*.

Mint Organization

The mint at Rome was organized into six separate *officinae*, or workshops. Each one was assigned an imperial image to place on its coins: Officina I, II, V and VI struck coins picturing Philip I; Officina III featured Philip II; and Officina IV depicted Otacilia.

Each workshop produced a different animal reverse type. The silver coins are marked with a Roman numeral in the exergue beneath the animal to indicate the officina that struck the coins. This was the first time Roman money explicitly noted the workshop in which they were produced.

The Animals

Lions. One of the animal species most often seen at the games, lions were captured for exhibitions in large numbers, which likely led to their extinction in certain regions. As early as 186 B.C., they appeared at the Roman games, where they were fought and killed by trained hunters (*venetores*) or induced to attack other animals.

Lions most often were obtained from Africa, but they came from Arabia, Syria and Mesopotamia as well. They also were bred and raised in Italy by the wealthy, and some were tamed and, it is said, kept as pets.

Wolves. As the story of Romulus and Remus reflects, wolves were indigenous to Italy. The wolf, as it is depicted on Philip's coins, appears slightly

and other wild animals in an amphitheatre.)

Moose. Also known as European elk, moose were brought to Rome from the northern frontier (i.e., Germany and vicinity). They were first recorded in Rome during the reign of Commodus (A.D. 177-92) and are listed as one of the animals presented at Philip's games. Pliny (the Elder) remarked on the animal's large upper lip, but he did not mention its antlers, which look small on a silver *antoninianus*. (Typically, a bull moose sheds its antlers at the end of the year and grows new ones in the spring.) Moreover, some Roman die-engravers were less skilled than others, and their efforts sometimes produced somewhat sketchy results.

The diminutive antlers also led to a point of numismatic confusion. As early as the 18th century, catalogers identified the animal on this coin as a goat, an error that has often been repeated. A 19th-century writer suggested that the beast was a moose, but it was not until 1978 that this was more universally accepted. Comparison with a brass *sestertius* that shows the animal's long legs, large feet, rounded nose and, especially, the two-pronged upright antlers, also makes it clear that the *antoninianus* in question portrays a young male moose.

Hippopotami. Many hippopotami were obtained from the Nile River.

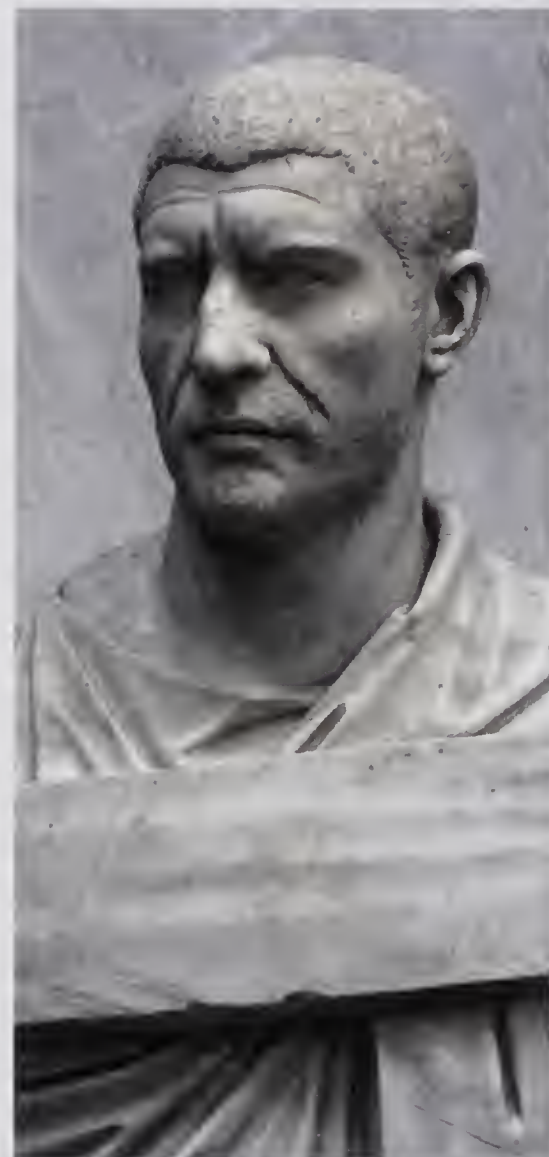


PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA.ORG

▲ **PHILIP I** emphasized the scope of his power by depicting a broad range of animals on his coinage.



▲ **A RENDERING** of a she-wolf nursing the twins Romulus and Remus is featured on this silver *antoninianus*. Actual Size: 23mm

out of place in the series, for it is shown as the she-wolf suckling Romulus and Remus, not as an isolated creature. However, this motif was a common Roman emblem and certainly appropriate for the anniversary. It is possible that wolves were among the "other animals" Gordian had obtained, and they may have appeared at the games. (A painting from Pompeii shows wolves



▲ **HIPPOTOTAMI** were kept in a pond or tank until they were brought to the Colosseum.

Actual Size: 23mm

As for the games, the exhibition and slaughter of wild animals continued for several more centuries under succeeding emperors.

PHOTOS: BRUCE BARTELT (ANTONINIANUS) & CLASSICAL NUMISMATIC GROUP



▲ **THE SHORT ANTLERS ON THE MOOSE** featured on this silver antoninianus (left) led some coin catalogers to believe the animal was a goat. However, it closely resembles the moose shown on a brass sestertius (right).

Actual Size: 22mm (antoninianus) & 26 mm

Their first appearance in Rome was noted in 58 B.C. during the late republic. The exotic beasts were captured alive in excavated pits. Ancient authors record that hippopotami, among other animals, were kept and trained in Alexandria. From this Egyptian port city, they were shipped to Rome in heavy cages or boxes. Once in Rome, they were kept in a pond or tank until they were brought to the Colosseum.

Deer/Stag. Abundant in Italy, deer frequently were used in Roman spectacles. Some were tamed and trained to wear harnesses. The red

deer, a variant of the American elk, were abundant in northern Europe, but would have been an unusual sight in Rome. The large antlers shown on the coins suggest the species portrayed is the red deer.

Antelope. Several species of antelope were brought to Rome from North Africa. The variety depicted on Philip I's coins has curving horns, indicating it might be an impala or addax. The animals likely were cap-

tured in the wild by driving them into corrals or netted enclosures.

Some antelope species were domesticated. In the arena, they often were prey for "hunters" or carnivorous animals. Martial (Marcus Valerius Matialis), a writer in ancient times, records that they might have amused spectators as they butted one another.

The New Millenium

For Philip I, the dawn of the new millennium that he celebrated so lavishly was not auspicious, as he was overthrown by a rival general the following year. A rebellious army proclaimed Trajan Decius emperor, and Philip was defeated when the two forces clashed in northern Italy. As for the games, the exhibition and slaughter of wild animals continued for several more centuries under succeeding emperors.

Today, it is hard for us to fathom the entertainment value of the hapless destruction of so many creatures (not to mention humans) during the games. How did ancient Romans regard the wild animals in the amphitheatres? Many of the city's citizens certainly found the bloody show exhilarating, just as some people in modern times enjoy bull-fights or dogfights.

Yet, few ancient Romans spoke out against the popular games. Cicero records that, at one show, the crowd expressed pity for the tormented beasts. Some Romans cared for animals, and we know that many wealthy citizens, for their own enjoyment, kept unusual animals in private parks—ancient precursors to game preserves and zoos.

For the plebeian class, the opportunity to see strange animals from foreign lands must have been a memorable experience. Perhaps some people who viewed the wild and exotic beasts depicted on the coins of A.D. 248 did so with the same fascination many have today for the endless forms that populate our world.

CLASSICAL SOURCES

Historia Augusta. David Magie, trans. *Loeb Classical Library.* Harvard University Press: 1921-32. penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Roman/Texts/historia_augusta/home.html. *augusti.*

Pliny the Elder. *Naturalis Historia.* John Bostock, trans. 1855. data.perseus.org/citations/urn:cts:latinLit:phi0978.phi001.perseus-engl:1.



▲ **CURVING HORNS** indicate that the antelope shown on this silver antoninianus may be an impala or addax.

Actual Size: 22mm

PHOTO: BRUCE BARTELT



▲ **THE LARGE ANTLERS** on the stag featured on this silver antoninianus identify it as a red deer.

Actual Size: 23mm

PHOTO: BRUCE BARTELT

Auction List -- November 20, 2014

Lot

- 1 Box of new coin supplies
- 2 Attractive Medalcraft Mint key chain
- 3 Set of four MNS 1969 first moon landing medals
- 4 Bath tub full of misc. tokens, medals and pins
- 5 Three Milwaukee postcards and 1947 encased cent
- 6 100 share Pennsylvania Railroad stock certificate (**John Wilson club donation**)
- 7 Charles Opitz "Traditional Money on Yap & Palau" book (**John Wilson club donation**)
- 8 15 filled old S&H Green Stamp books, offered as a single lot
- 9 Perpetual desk calendar, Venetian Pharmacy, 3801 W. Center St., Milw.
- 10 2015 brand new edition, Standard catalog of World coins, 1901-2000, Krause Publications
- 11 2015 brand new edition, Standard Catalog of World coins, 2001-present, Krause Publications
- 12 Milwaukee ANA huge bronze medal with Milwaukee scenes, 2007 (MB \$10)
- 13 Violet Theatre, Vliet St., Milwaukee, ticket to admit two people
- 14 US Military Payment certificates, set of three denominations
- 15 Two Milwaukee Brewers metallic baseball pogs, Robin Yount & Rob Deer
- 16 3 diff. RARE brass tokens Milw. Brewers (1998 & 1999) Robin Yount, NL, County Stadium
- 17 1943-S BU fully struck bands Mercury silver dime, Cat. value \$66.00 (MB \$14)
- 18 Box of new coin supplies
- 19 1922 Association of Banks, Milwaukee token featuring City Hall
- 20 1914 Schwaab ribbon with nice medal featuring Luth. Kinderheim home
- 21 Four 1971 MNS medals featuring 125th Anniv. Of Milwaukee
- 22 1950 Milwaukee medal hosting the 59th ANA coin convention
- 23 Excellent WI Chapter #7 RAM Milwaukee Masonic cent featuring the seal of WI
- 24 Three coin coasters
- 25 Two Milwaukee postcards from "The Evening Wisconsin" news, est 1868-1918
- 26 Four medals from Central States 1962 Milw. Show featuring "Old Abe"
- 27 The 1974 Wisconsinite "**Daisy Jackson**" Numismatic Ambassador award medal on ribbon
- 28 Set of four medals for the 1967 NOW show in Milwaukee
- 29 1934 International Assoc. of Fire Chiefs Milwaukee Convention Schwaab ribbon and medal on original card
- 30 Two 1870's Milwaukee Bank of Commerce checks
- 31 Four old humorous postcards (1912-16)
- 32 "NOW-MNS Milwaukee 1989" trucker style cap **Club Donation**
- 33 20 legal documents dated 1860 to 1872, all with one or more revenue stamps from 2 cent to 50 cent, many during Civil War (MB \$8.00)
- 34 75 elongates, almost all different (MB \$3.00)
- 35 17 wooden nickels, most different
- 36 50 diff. foreign coins. Some very old 1800's (MB \$3.00)
- 37 8 different European country badges
- 38 Desert Storm \$5.00 commemorative coin
- 39 8 different railroad checks
- 40